

MARIUS MERCIER

PHD STUDENT · ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE (ENS-PSL), INSTITUT JEAN NICOD
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EDUCATION

École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL), Institut Jean Nicod

PhD Psychology

- Supervisor: Hugo Mercier
- Thesis: How do we infer other's competence?

Expected graduation: Fall 2027

Paris, FR

École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL)

MA Cognitive Science — ENS Diploma

2021 – 2024

Paris, FR

- Supervisor: Hugo Mercier
- Final Year Ranking: 1/78
- Thesis: One Feeling, Many Domains: The Consistent Appeal of Insight across Knowledge Areas and Modalities

University of Princeton

Visiting Student Research Collaborator

Feb. 2023 – Jun. 2023

Princeton, NJ, USA

- Supervisor: Alin Coman

University of Cambridge

Visiting Research Student

Sep. 2022 – Jan. 2023

Cambridge, UK

- Supervisor: Lee de-Wit

Sciences Po Bordeaux

BA Political Studies

2018 – 2021

Bordeaux, FR

University Paul Valéry

BA Philosophy

2018 – 2021

Montpellier, FR

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Publications

2. **Mercier, M.**, Garsmeur, A. & Mercier, H. (2025) The Appeal of Insight: Why Riddles and Whodunits Captivate Us. *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts*. Advance online publication.
1. **Mercier, M.**, Dubourg, E. & Mercier, H. (2025) Insight-seeking is consistent across domains and distinct from other forms of curiosity. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 237, 113051.

Working Papers

2. **Mercier, M.**, Morin, O., Mercier, H., Quillien, T. (2025) Who knows what? Bayesian Competence Inference guides Knowledge Attribution and Information search. *PsyArXiv*, https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/rt8ux_v1
1. Dubourg, E., Thouzeau, V., ..., **Mercier, M.**, ..., Baumard, N. (2025). The Cognitive Foundations of Fictional Stories. (*Under review*)

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

3. **Bayesian Inference in Competence Evaluation** [Poster] *Symposium on the Biology of Decision Making SBDM, Lyon* 2025
2. **In Search of Experts: Bayesian Inference of Knowledgeability from Minimal Cues** [Long Talk] *European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association EHBEA, Newcastle* 2025
1. **The Appeal of Insight: Why Riddles and Whodunits Captivate Us** [Talk] *Explaining Culture Conference, Paris* 2025

Invited Talks

2. The Appeal of Insight: Cultural Preferences, Personality and Metacognition <i>CreaTeam, Frontlab, Paris Brain Institute</i>	2025
1. How do People Judge Competence from Minimal Cues? <i>Laboratoire de Neurosciences Cognitives et Computationalles LNC² - Social Cognition Team, ENS-PSL</i>	2025

TEACHING

Courses

Introduction to Experimental Psychology PSL University	2025 – 2026
• Sole Instructor, Undergraduate Course, 30h	
Human Behaviour Culture and Societies École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL)	2024 – 2025
• Teaching Assistant, Graduate Course	
• Taught with Nicolas Baumard & Jean-Baptiste André	

Guest Lectures

The Appeal of Insight CPES Données Arts et Cultures – PSL, LLG	2025
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Student internship supervision

- 3. Ruby De Lanerolle, *undergraduate* 2025
- 2. Nina Vivier Barte, *undergraduate* 2024 – 2025
- 1. Clementine Allais, *undergraduate* 2024 – 2025

WORK EXPERIENCE

Data Scientist <i>Noëse</i>	2023 – Present
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SCIENCE OUTREACH

General Audience Talks

- 1. Interactive experience and game on psychological consequences of inequalities. **Nuit Européenne des Chercheurs**, Brest 2023